

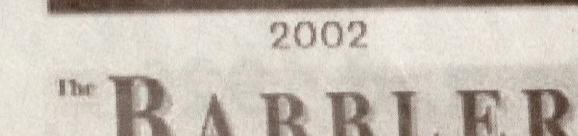
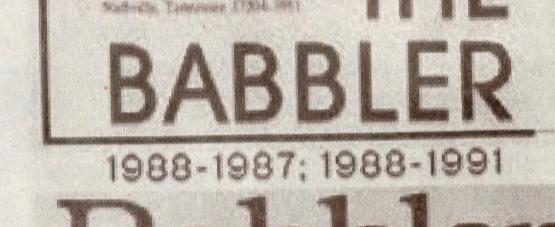
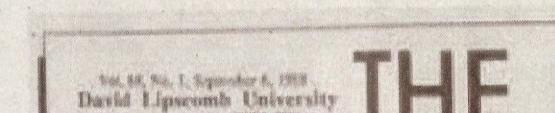
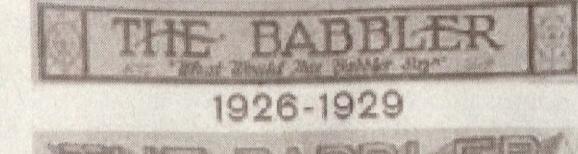
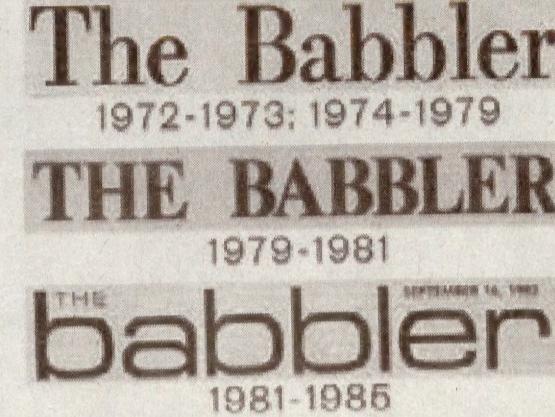
Lipscomb Media

CELEBRATING A CENTENNIAL OF JOURNALISM

Special Edition

Nashville, Tennessee

Oct. 5, 2023



Iumination
network

2010



2010



2019



2022

Our History, Our Story

On Oct. 5, 1923, a dedicated panel of editors transformed the literary magazine *Havalind Acts* into a newspaper named *The Babbler*. That act marked the beginning of journalism at David Lipscomb College. As student media shifted from print to the world of online journalism, it was rebranded as Lumption Network.

With every evolution, the heart of our student media remained unchanged -- to tell stories that resonate, inform and inspire. Today, we've embraced a new identity: Herd Media. An entity that doesn't forget its roots but seeks to expand its branches to new and innovative forms of media staying true to the principles of storytelling with FAITH: Fairness, Accuracy, Interest, Thoroughness and Humanity.

Our history doesn't stop with news. Student Media also has a rich

history of documenting the campus through a yearbook. In 1910, *The Ark* was published, followed by the *Zenith* in 1914 and finally rebranding as the *Backlog* in 1922. The *Backlog* told the story of campus life for almost a century. Thanks to the hard work of the Lipscomb library staff and generous donors, all of these publications are now available online.

Let's journey through the decades, exploring the heart of our legacy and looking forward to the future.

Here is a link to the Herd Media page: <https://lipscombmedia.com/introducing-herd-media/>

Havalind Acts: <https://lipscombmedia.com/archive-havalind-acts/>.

History of Student Media at Lipscomb University

1897: Lipscomb University Founded

1910: *The Ark*: Batsell Baxter, a junior, assumes the position of editor-in-chief for *The Ark*, producing only a single volume. The Ark is dubbed "the yearbook that contains everything."

1914: *The Zenith*: *The Zenith* emerges as a renewed effort for an annual publication. However, *The Zenith* was published only in 1914, 1916, and 1920.

1915: *Havalind Acts*: Lipscomb publishes a monthly literary magazine called *Havalind Acts*. The name "H-ava-lind" comes from the "H" of Harding Hall, "ava" of Avalon, and "lind" of Lindsay dormitory.

1922: *The Back Log*: The yearbook becomes an annual publication and adopts the two-word title *Back Log*.

1923: *The Babbler*: The literary magazine reforms as a newspaper allowing for more student voices. The name comes from Acts 17:18 "What would this babbler say?"

1924: Radio Talk: Students advocate for a radio station stating, "Imagine how many people who had never heard of D.L.C. would stop to listen to a good piece of music or an inspiring talk."

1925: *Backlog*: The yearbook becomes the *Backlog*, now spelled as one word.

1925: Radio Club: Science students organize a radio club to study the mechanism of radio. There are 40 members.

1933: Ceases Publication: *The Babbler* ceases publication for one year due to limited funds during the Great Depression.

1936: Old Betsy: The press club raises by sponsoring a Basketball game. They use the funds to purchase an old printing press, which was called "Old Betsy," cutting

the cost of printing the paper in half. The printing press was in commission for eight years.

1965: Radio Planned: Lipscomb plans on building a facility for a radio station.

1968: WDLR Radio: The radio class writes and produces content for WDLR.

1974: WBSN Radio: WBSN, "The Spirit of the Bisons," plays music on the square for Bisons Day. A van, on loan from Nashville's WENO, parks next to the Alumni Auditorium. This one-day broadcast includes music, on-scene interviews with social club members, a basketball game against Harding coverage, and an interview with Lipscomb President Athens Clay Pullias.

1974: WLAC-TV: WLAC-TV uses a "Live Action Cam" to cover post-chapel festivities during Bison Day.

1976: WBSN Continues: WBSN again covers Bison Day. The coverage highlight includes "Dr. Perry Cotham's death-defying leap over the Bison – or someone's idea of a bison – covered live on radio and closed-circuit television by WBSN."

1981: WDLR Closed Circuit: WDLR, Lipscomb's first close-circuit radio program, broadcasts in Bison Square.

1986: WDLC Radio: On Jan. 27, WDLC replaces WDLR. Students can now pick up the station in their dorm rooms.

1988: DLU Digest: DLU Digest, a television show, begins. Dr. Bill Proctor states, "I had seen other colleges with similar programs," Proctor said, "and I thought it would be good for our students to have a real-life experience with television as opposed to just reading textbooks."

1990: Spectrum: A new production company, Great

American Memories, is hired to help with the production of the video yearbook. The goal is to "make this year's Video Yearbook informative, entertaining, fast-moving and light."

1993: *The Babbler* Publishing: The paper publishes weekly, a change from previous years.

1994: Bison News Network (BNN)

1994: Lipscomb hosts a live on-campus news program. This is the first project of this magnitude.

2001: Bison News Network: Bison News Network broadcasts a short campus news segment before chapel on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

2006: Ezell Studio: The communication department moves into a new studio in the Ezell building.

2010: Lumination Network: *The Babbler* rebrands as Lumination Network as the publication moves online. Radio also rebrands as Lumination Radio.

2016: *Backlog* Ends: The *Backlog* comes to an end with the final publication.

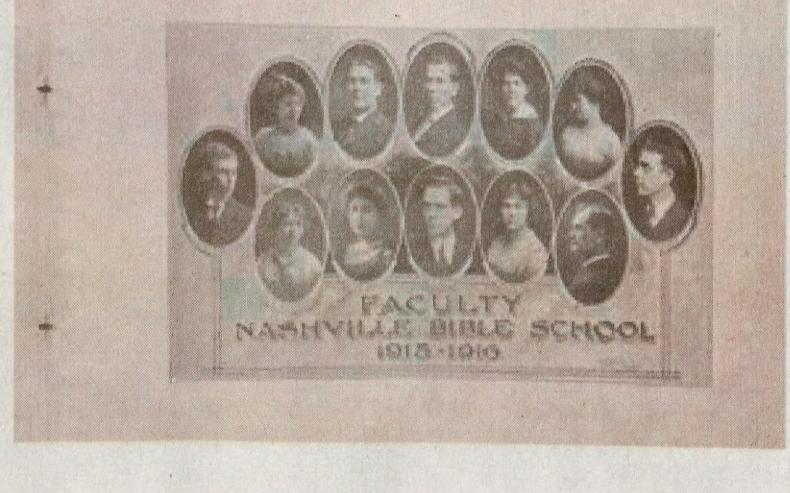
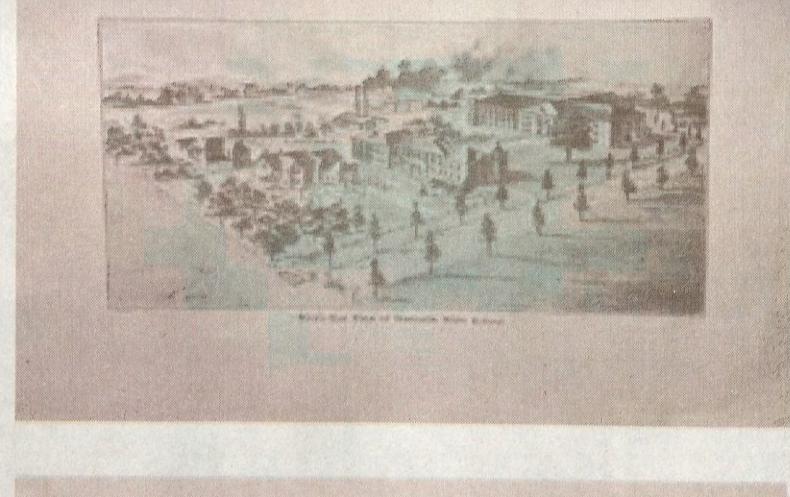
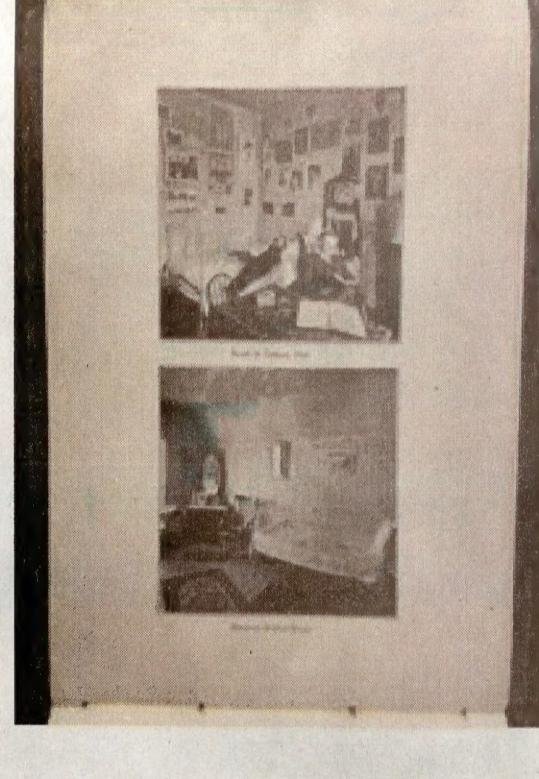
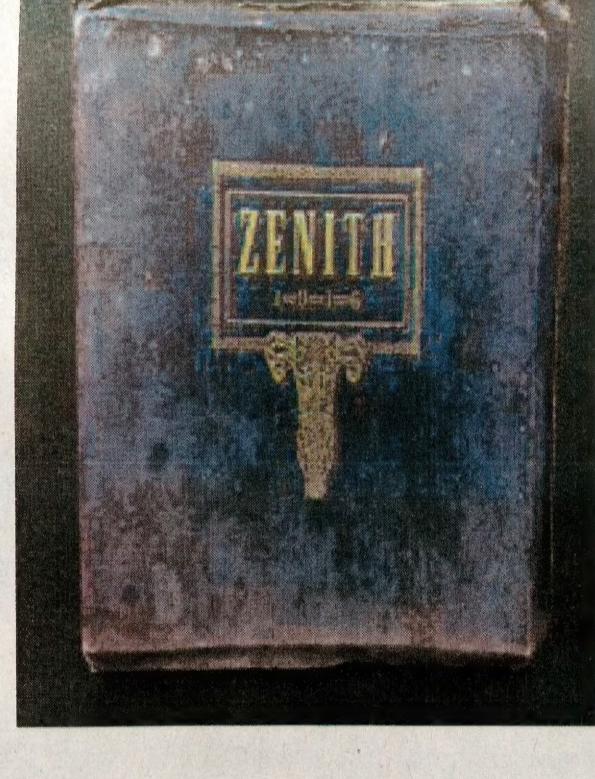
2019: The Bison: Lumination Radio rebrands as The Bison.

2022: Herd Media: Lumination Network rebrands as Herd Media as it branches out with a digital native approach adding multiple forms of media including social media storytelling.

2023: Murrow Award: "The Grand Ole Guitar" wins the student National Murrow Award for Video Feature Reporting under the guidance of long-time Nashville reporter Demetria Kalodimos.

2023: 100th Anniversary

1910s and 1920s



Page Ten Havalind Acts

Havalind Acts--Back Log Banquet

Dear David Lipscomb College my dear students and friends! If you think not, let me kindly call your attention to Havalind Acts, and The Back Log, and more of the things they are accomplishing.

One of their latest accomplishments was the introduction of an annual banquet given by the staffs of these publications to their great friends. The first banquet was held on March 10th in the College Dining Hall which was artistically decorated in the College colors, purple and gold. Although the night was gloomy and rainy outside, our hearts were made happy by the gleaming flames which surrounded The Back Log, in our old family fireplace.

An Old Father Time sounded the eighth hour of the evening as assembled around the table where each couple exchanged their greetings and the time was spent in the quiet atmosphere in the form of a miniature "Havalind Acts". In this pleasant atmosphere an appetizing dinner menu was served. At intervals various toasts were given to honor the enjoyment of the evening. The famous College Quartet chanted to be present, and what could have been more pleasing at that time, than some of their choice selections. After dinner had concluded and been enjoyed, our minds were never far from the future to come, given by an interesting address between Mr. Green and Mrs. Green.

After an enthusiastic address from our President, we bade our visitors a happy good night, each hoping that many more such occasions would come into our midst.

Black and Scarlet

"Don't be afraid to show your colors" is the advice often given to young people when they are starting out in life. The motto of D.L.C. is surely well poised to point to "Black and Scarlet" and say "They are our colors". These colors must be kept from every stain of wrong for what they signify, to all.

The Scarlet typifies to us the sun—the sun of righteousness—the sun of strength—the sun of light in darkness. It is crimson—warm and strong, to be in every woman, even as in every man, indicating the fire of inspiration to every sluggish soul and faltering heart.

Our "Black and Scarlet" will represent the contrast between sacrifice and shade. We would gladly have life all

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HAVALIND ACTS
Published Every Month by Board of Editors of David Lipscomb College
Price: \$1.00 Per Year in Advance.

M. H. MURKIN CLARK MURKIN WILLIAM COLEMAN JOHN COTTER	Business Manager Editor in Chief Associate Editor Business Manager
J. C. GREENE	Editorial Editor

Vol. X MARCH, 1919 No. 3

The purpose for this issue of Havalind Acts was submitted to the girls in the school by Miss Mary Murphy, who suggested to give her a chance to write out her thoughts. She said that she was extremely disappointed and there would be no Havalind Acts until it met her standards. We appreciate their willingness to bear the responsibility of the words that we will want to show them that we are just as willing to bear their influence to our best advantage.

All copies of this issue leave the house and vicinity. They are so numerous. We will not have any more than there are available. We will publish another issue in July or August, probably addressing to many girls, and we hope that it will have very much interesting material. We enjoy their company and we are glad to make the issue of Havalind Acts an attraction to many. We hope it will encourage them and their number will be a good one. May they profit by our mistakes.

DEDICATION

To the love of D. L. C.
We will remain in love.
With love for you.
In peace we dedicate this Number.
We will make it well chosen, your selection.
We will make it well written, your writing.
But those poor girls who we know full well,
We're a friend of ours ourselves.
Please keep your self out for the workers
that serve us we are most appreciative.
And pride by this dedication.

MARY MURKIN

1920s

THE BABBLER

"What would this babbler say?" Acts 17:18

Vol. 4.

DAVID LIPSCOMB COLLEGE, NASHVILLE, TENN., OCTOBER 5, 1923.

No. 1.

Large Audience Sees Formal Opening

President Boles Well Pleased With Beginning

Elam, Pollard, Riggs and Dunn Speak

The big hall clanged again, holding only calling students, teachers, parents and friends to the opening of David Lipscomb College's thirtieth year. As the crowd began to gather in the assembly room of Hardin Hall, and as the long rows of seats became more and more nearly filled by the greeting friends, the falling doors of the Art and Commercial rooms were removed, making more seating capacity. Long before the time for the exercises to begin, the hall was filled to overflowing.

The new president, R. Lee Boles, after the hearty singing of "Stand up for Jesus," began the service and the year by a scripture reading. This was followed by a prayer led by Brother F. W. Smith.

Elam Speaks

"Education—Education, True and False—Real and So-called," was the theme of E. A. Elam's speech which followed the welcoming words of the president. "We make our stand for Christian education," the speaker said. "There can be nothing in education to make it Christian if it does not regard to the everyday principles which Christ preached and practiced. It is a gross minister," he declared, "to make the world Christian before education when the whole scope of Christian character is not emphasized."

His further speech was a declaration as rather a reaffirmation of the purpose and ideals of David Lipscomb College. He said that if the school could only send well-born and wimpy who were bent and small for God, its mission would be fulfilled. He recognized the great value of scientific research, of historical inquiry, of medical facilities—the doing of great and human things along any line,

Bible Educational Fund Grows to \$26,000.00

Great Drive Launched

B. D. Morehead, Field Secretary

At the close of the school session just past, the Bible Educational Fund received an exact increase of 100 per cent, totaling the total sum deposited, amounting to 19,000 dollars over previous year. This year, 1923, was to be one of great hope for the school.

This Great Work was started by A. L. Brown with "Now that we have secured our developing great work among men of the future by sending souls who are not yet won to know Jesus themselves through College, we have been the cause in the past, of collecting \$10,000.00 of the sum, \$10,000.00 amounting our sum.

All appropriations are given on this basis: one per cent each, and one remainder at ten per cent a year, less of any great capacity will add to the obligation of the donor, or it may come apart from his original anticipations the need in his regard to the wants of these here.

The sum paid in that any student, at working or otherwise, may borrow from the Fund, consisting the money at the rate of 10 per cent per year after leaving school. Many have given of late and many more are now being added by R. Morehead good men and is being done as a consequence of the generous action of another person has done more and more. The only desire is that our work is as great for investment in our Godly work, and the fund to stand.

The Board of Trustees, in reaffirming this, have determined to do all in their power to increase the fund to the extent that the audience may be sent throughout the land. The plan is to give everybody an understanding of the great work, and while they



H. Lee Boles, (left) former as a teacher, with the record of a previous successful seven year administration as president of David Lipscomb College, and A. G. Freed, former president of Freed-Hardeman College, begin their united efforts as present and vice president of David Lipscomb College in its thirty-third year.

Faculty Gives Gets Acquainted Meeting

Saturday night, September the twenty-second, the Faculty gave a general reception for the students.

At eight o'clock, the boys and girls assembled in Hardin Hall, entering different doors. As the purpose of this reception was to be explained, and in order that this might be accomplished by introducing each person and his name placed in a box. The names of the girls were placed in a box and passed to the young men, who then gave the proposition of finding the girl whose name was the same as the name drawn from the box. After each boy found his partner, a short program was given consisting of two songs by the quartet, a reading by Miss Myrtle Thorpe, and a piano solo by Miss Sam Mason. Between the numbers the visitors were largely shifting the boxes, so that they might have the privilege of meeting as many of the girls as possible.

It seemed but a very short time since our president bade us good night, telling the boys to go one way and the girls the other. Everyone seemed to

Show Us" is Slogan for Sermon

TEXT FROM JOHN 14:8

FREED PREACHES TO LARGE AUDIENCE

Morning Sermon

"Showing people has been God's way of teaching them since Adam. Biblical commands may be disputed but we cannot argue against an example. The best evidence of Christianity is a Christian," declared A. G. Freed, vice-president of David Lipscomb College, and formerly president of Freed-Hardeman College, to a large audience in Hardin Hall Saturday morning, September 23. The speaker made impressive the statement that Christianity is not something to teach but something to live.

"The world is full of something, anything composed of living. One cannot estimate the known good that a real Christian does," he said. "The world if ever converted to Christ, will not be converted from pulpit, but rather from the examples set by individual Christians."

David Lipscomb College Is Growing

Enrollment Increases Fifty Per Cent

Thirteen States Represented

Construction of Gymnasium Begun

Contract Let at \$17,000

Students of the college are eagerly watching the construction of the new gymnasium, impatiently awaiting the time when it will be completed, and the pioneer's whistle will send ten players into the first game.

On opening day the students saw signs of much activity. Great piles of stones lay upon the ground and on concrete for the basement was ab-

sent completed. The new building will stand east of the great hall in front of Lindsey Hall. Its location will make it easily accessible to both boys and girls.

The building is to be a 15,000 square feet structure of native limestone, faced on the outside with red, pressed brick. It will measure seventy foot long and fifty feet wide. The basement will contain classrooms for boys and for girls, and in addition there will be space for two offices. Hot or cold shower baths will be provided and no efforts are being spared to construct a gymnasium modern and convenient.

On the second floor will be the auditorium, the balcony and the track. The door will be made of oak and maple, well laid, scraped, sandpapered and given a coat of lacquer.

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1940s and 1950s

Dear Editor...

Dear Editor:

In summer school at Lipscomb there are usually between 60 and 70 students enrolled. And by the time summer school is out, or even way before summer school is out, everybody gets to know each other, and where they're from, and get to be friendly with everyone. Well, that's not too unusual.

But what amazes me is the fact that during the regular fall, winter, and spring sessions, when there are hundreds and hundreds of students here, that by the end of the year, you can practically call them all by name, and everyone is your friend.

That "friendly spirit!" That's what we are known for at Lipscomb ... Summer, fall, winter, spring...

Appreciatively,
A student...

Dear Editor:

During the regular school quarters all of the students loved chapel better than almost any part of Lipscomb. This short devotion period impressed me than I can say.

This summer, while we have been having chapel and Bible class combined, I have missed the spirit of the regular chapel period. It seems to me that something is lacking in the worship that we take part in every day.

Although I realize the necessity of using this short period to the best advantage in order to conserve the limited time, I think we could put more actual meaning in the few minutes which is devoted to worship.

Reverently,
A senior...

Dear Editor,

I'm a freshman here. But I want to say that the campus of David Lipscomb College is beautiful. Everything is so green, and fresh-looking.

And there's something I didn't notice until just the other day... that all the trees on the campus are planted in rows. Every tree is in line with a whole row of others. And there are so many of them, too.

And if you sit on the campus under the shade and let those breezes blow on you it's about the coolest place around. And on prayer meeting nights you can see the sun go down through the trees, and it makes the service mean more surrounded by such beauty.

Lipscomb is a lovely place. All the way around.

Sincerely,
A Freshman

Dear Editor,

I'm a summer school student here -- just another Freshman enrolled in Lipscomb. And during the short time I have been here I have noticed something very different about Lipscomb -- different from the usual way that people talk about Lipscomb.

This difference that I have noticed lies in the fact that at Lipscomb you get credit for everything you do. Not with big noise -- no sounding trumpets -- nor stinging back slaps -- no, but with every good turn you do, every service, or deed, another one seems to quietly come back to you in some way. That's what I like about Lipscomb -- everyone is so nice and decent -- and they really give you a chance to show what you are.

Sincerely,
Another Freshman

July 22, 1942

THE BABBLER

LIPS COMB PLANS BIGGEST YEAR DESPITE WAR

High School To Open Sept. 8

REGISTRATION DATES ARE FROM SEPTEMBER 3-7

New Course Adoption Races To Be Used, Says Manasco

LIPS COMB ELIGIBLE FOR V.I.

David Lipscomb College, Nashville, Tennessee, November 21, 1942.

College Opens Sept. 21

15 BIBLE STUDENTS WIN SCHOLARSHIPS

Five Seniors Win Freshmen Scholarships

REMAINING HONOR AWARDS ARE GIVEN

Scholarship Winners Come From Tennessee, Kentucky

ROOKIES ARE FILLING UP DORMS

CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS ARE NOW BEING MADE

Pat Boone's Coming For The Juniors Feb. 14

The Babblar

Casts Are Named for Three Forthcoming Arena Plays

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1970s: Bicentennial rules homecoming

By Sherrie Brown

Feb. 24, 1976

Coming home bicentennial style created the mood of Homecoming '76 on the Lipscomb campus.

As usual, the eve of Homecoming Day was a busy time as social clubs frantically combined efforts until the wee hours of the morning to complete their respective exhibits.

SIGMA IOTA DELTA, Kappa Chi, Sigma Chi Delta, Lambda Psi and Kappa Phi produced the winning homecoming exhibit "Stuff 'em Bisons," featuring a gigantic Bison stuffing a bulldog through a basketball goal.

Capturing second in the social club competition was the group comprised of Tau Phi, Psi Alpha, Gamma Lambda and Omega Chi with the theme of "Pound the Bulldogs."

"Making Tracks Through Union Station," featuring a purple Bison train running though a railroad station, was the

The Babbler

theme of the exhibit by Alpha Tau, Omega Nu, Pi Delta, and Delta Sigma.

DELTA NU, Kappa Theta, Zeta Nu and Phi Omega worked together to create a space ship encouraging the Bisons to "Trek to a Victory."

As the afternoon and Homecoming game rapidly approached, the gym was soon packed with Lipscomb supporters.

The bicentennial theme was carried over into the coronation ceremony with a map of the United States mounted on a huge flag covering the length and width of the gym floor.

THE LIPSCOMB Chorale, A Cappella Singers and band presented a program of patriotic music prior to coronation festivities.

Dean Mack Wayne Craig presented 23 of Lipscomb's 28 former Homecoming queens since the event originated in

1948, all of whom had been invited as special guests of Mrs. Athens Clay Pullias.

The crowning ceremony officially began with the entrance of the royal court, and it climaxed with the crowning of the 29th Homecoming Queen, Linda Louise Gray, by President Athens Clay Pullias.

THE HOMECOMING COURT included representatives-at-large Lisa Hanvey, Sharon Oatts, Marlene Schwall, and Pamela Whitesell.

Escorts were Greg Holmes, Jim Lawrence, Jimmy Netterville and Roy Osborne.

Representing the June graduating class were Susie Pullias, and Brad Arnold; August graduate representatives were Jane Dennison and Bill Stowe; December representatives were Cyndi Tomlinson and Roger Loyd.

OTHER ATTENDANTS and escorts were Ann Neal and Mike Corley of the junior class, Kathy Hanvey and David Waddell of the sophomore class, and Sherry Turbyfill and Alan Shoaf of the freshman

class.

To honor the new queen, JoEtta Hyne, student body secretary, and student body president Steve Flatt, representing the basketball team, presented gifts to Linda.

However, the afternoon festivities were somewhat dampened by the Bisons' 64-56 loss to Union University.

HOMECOMING CAME to a close with the annual Festival of Hearts pageant in the evening.

Marsha Adams, Martha Black, Debbie Bracey, Betty Corlew, Beth Halteman and Sherrie McFarlin were selected as the six campus beauty finalists to be featured in the 1976 Backlog.

Against a rustic bicentennial background, the contestants modeled sports-wear, street clothes and formal attire.

Runners-up in the Festival of Hearts pageant were Karen DeHart, Denise Foster, Phyllis King, Joy Moore, Jenny Lynn Newman and Karen Smith.

1980s: Diary of a Dream

Bison basketball wins NAIA national championship

By Tom Kelsey, Babbler Sports Editor

April 10, 1986

Editor's note: The following is a diary of the events which led to the national championship in Kansas City as written by team captain and sports editor Tom Kelsey. Tom gives special insight into an event which few schools get to experience. It is through this insight that we hope you will see beyond the victory and feel the emotion as the Bisons made history.

Thursday, March 6, 1986 – Harrogate, Tennessee

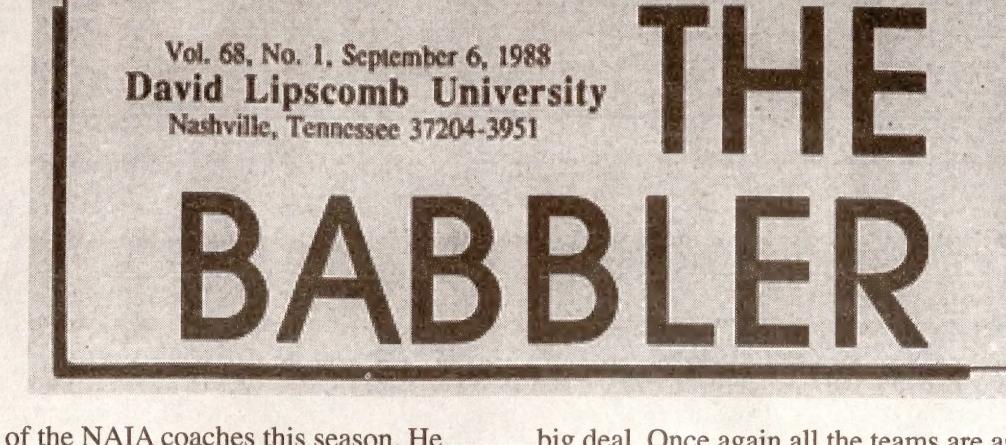
We just beat Lincoln Memorial University for the District 24 Championship. I can't believe we're going to Kansas City for the second year in a row. I'm happy right now in one way and sad in another. Happy that we are the first Bisons to go to the nationals two years in a row. Sad that there has been so many guys before us that didn't even get the chance to go. I keep thinking about Rick Kyle, and when I was in high school, I came to camp at Lipscomb. I was just a skinny high school kid, and I idolized Rick, and the way he played. He seemed to work so hard and give it everything he had for the basketball program. Yet, he never got to go to K.C. as a player, but I (his pupil) get to go now for a second time.

Friday, March 7

It's March 7 now and it's 1:30 a.m. We are rumbling down I-40 back to Nashville, and as I look out the window into the darkness I think of how unfair life really is. Here I am no better than any of the past Bisons, but I just happened to be a Bison in the right place at the right time. As we get closer to Nashville, I listen for some noise coming from the back of the bus. There is none. Everyone is sound asleep or talking softly—a far cry from last year. When we beat LMU last year in the District finals, we were going crazy after the game and then the entire bus ride home, everyone was wide-awake talking of how neat it was to be going to K.C. for the first time. This year it's different. The locker room atmosphere after the game was different; even our pre-game attitude was different. Last year this game was a major accomplishment. This time, we all feel this is just a stepping stone. Everyone keeps telling each other "five more games, five more games." If we win five more games, we will be national champions.

Tuesday, March 11 – Kansas City, Mo., Gold Buffet

They have a big banquet the night before the tournament begins for all the coaches and players. The dinner is an all-you-can eat affair and each team sits at a designated table. With 32 teams in the tournaments, that means there are at least 400 players in this one room. Plus, there are a few tables for the referees, and a table for the people in charge of the tournament. Coach Meyer gets to sit at the head table since he is the president



of the NAIA coaches this season. He looks pretty dumb up there trying to look dignified. But hey, when does he not look dumb??

The best thing about the whole dinner is that behind the head table is the banner. Big enough for every player to see is the banner that reads...NAIA NATIONAL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS 1986—MEN'S DIVISION. Throughout the whole program, every one of us has had our eyes fixed on that banner. As I look around, I get so discouraged seeing these other teams. Man, they are so big, and I keep thinking do we really belong here? You have to understand that so many teams look awesome when you see them in airports or hotel lobbies. As I look at the other players from the other teams, I begin to get scared and think we don't have a chance to win this thing. Greg Caudle suddenly wakes me up as we leave the banquet when he tells me "the banner is ours, baby." I hope so....man, I hope so.

Wednesday, March 12

This could be the worst day of my life. We don't play our first game until tomorrow night, and the waiting is going to kill me. It's 11 a.m., and we are on our way to go practice. Since the games started around 9:45, this morning somebody is already out of the tournament. We have practiced at Rockhurst College here in Kansas City. It's a nice gym; one that looks as if it were built in the early 1900's. Old,..but definitely well kept. After practice, it's back to the hotel and rest. The rest doesn't seem to last long because it's now time to head over to Kemper Arena for the Parade of Champions. This is where, after the 6:00 game, the teams, coaches and honorary coaches parade onto the floor.

(TIMEOUT, so I can explain what the honorary coaches are. Each team is given two honorary coaches. The honorary coaches are usually Kansas City-area businessmen who sort-of adopt whatever team they draw from the hat. They help with setting up practice sites and times to practice, meals, and transportation.)

Now back to the parade...What the teams do is circle around the playing floor and then each team's coach and honorary coach goes onto a designated spot on the floor. When every coach is in place it spells out N-A-I-A. Kind of like halftime at a college football game when the band spells out their school name. Sure, it's not opening ceremonies of the Olympics, but to the players in this tournament and the parents, it's a pretty

big deal. Once again all the teams are assembled, and as I look around at the other players, I know these guys are so much more talented than we are. But, if we handle the ball and play our game, maybe we have a chance to win a few out here.

Thursday, March 13

No sleep last night....I am too pumped up. All I kept thinking when I was in bed was Minnesota-Duluth. The neat thing about this tournament is that you really don't have time to accurately scout an opponent. That could work to our advantage here this week. We have nine players who play a lot of minutes, and there's no way someone can scout all nine of us accurately. When a team only has five or six players, it's not too hard to draw up a scouting report. That's what most teams have—five or six players who play a lot of minutes.

We had a shooting practice this morning and then more rest this afternoon. Right now I'm in a hallway near the dressing rooms. It's time to stretch and get ready for our game. I got taped early so I would have plenty of time to stretch. You want to be good and loose when you hit the floor because they only give the teams 10 minutes to warm up before the game. As I stretch, I realize that this could be my and the other seniors' last game.

Wait, I've got to think positive.

Post-Game

The game turned out to be tougher than I thought. They reminded me of ourselves—play tough man-to-man defense and patient on offense. John Kimbrell played the first sub-par game I've seen him play in two years. Sometimes we expect too much out of John. It's almost like we've come to expect great games out of him every night. Luckily, Anthony Jones hit some key shots, and down the stretch Chris Martello grabbed some clutch rebounds. We had a 32-28 halftime lead, but in the second half, I thought we would pull away easy and we never really did. They had some players who played really hard. Fortunately we wore them down with our bench strength and we won 62-56.

Friday, March 14

Well, we are now to the crucial part. Last year, we played a Kansas team in the second round and ended up getting beat. This year we are in the same position as we play Emporia State in the second round. I don't know what part of Kansas they are from; I just want to beat 'em.

Right now it's early afternoon, and so it's time to sit back in the hotel room and watch the NCAA on television. Indiana is playing some team called Cleveland State right now. My roommate, Richard Taylor, and I figure Indiana will win easily even though they are down at the half, so we both take a nap. I wake up in time to see the last minute of the Cleveland State game, and I see that they upset Indiana. That's what makes basketball such a great game because no outcome is for certain.

Same hallway again before the game. This time I'm not having negative thoughts at all. I know we can beat these guys. At our shooting practice this morning when Coach Turner was going through the scouting report, he told us there was no way they could beat us. We believed him. Chuck Ross gave us one of his usual pre-game talks, and we were ready. Only problem is that Chuck gave us the talk at noon., and the game isn't until 8 p.m. I can sense we are all ready to play this one.

Post-game, Emporia State

We were ready! We didn't play smart at all times, but we did win. They had about 9,000 fans here for the game. They weren't really a factor since the floor is about 15 feet from the seats. We could hear each other on the floor fine no matter how much noise they made. John got into early foul trouble which hurt us. Chris M. had an unbelievable game—23 points, 10 rebounds. He was definitely the factor tonight. It seemed like every time we needed a big basket or rebound Chris would get the job done. AJ had another good game. He hit some long bombs, but even better he had nine rebounds! Not bad for a guard.

They were up 40-34 at the half. I knew we could come back. It was just a matter of taking our time and not rushing things. With about 10 minutes left we were down eight points, and AJ kept yelling "plenty of time guys, we've got plenty of time." We did have plenty of time. I was sitting on the bench with only a couple of minutes left, and we were down a point. I kept thinking if we can just get ahead, this thing is all over. We did get ahead, and when we did, John sealed the game for us in the last minute by hitting some key free throws. It was a great feeling because we all knew John would hit the throws down the stretch, and we won 79-76. Now, it's onward to play Central Washington.

Saturday, March 15

Tonight we play the same time we've been playing the past two nights—8:30 p.m. It's kind of nice because we've developed a routine now. First there's the wake-up call around 9 a.m. Then, it's down to coach's room, where Chris Snoddy feeds us our nutritious breakfast of oranges, apples, juice, milk and doughnuts. Then, it's off to shoot at the gym around 11:00. The past two days our shooting practice has been at Rockhurst, but today we get to shoot at the big gym, Kemper Arena. We've already played two games here, and now we get to shoot

Continued on Page 7

1980s: Diary of a Dream (continued from Page 6)

around here. It's nicer, more relaxed now. You can look around and see how big the arena really is. It's empty now except for us, and we all take at least one shot from behind the three-point line. The three-point line was for the Kansas City Kings of the NBA who played here last year, and now, they have moved to Sacramento. I guess the people at Kemper didn't have time to paint over the lines. After we shoot, it's time to head over to Di-lites for our lunch. Most of us eat pretty well except for Greg Caudle. I'm a bit worried because Greg says he doesn't feel good. I know he's not nervous 'cause he doesn't get nervous, and he's not faking it because he's a tough cookie. I feel guilty eating my big burger, soup, and salad right in front of him. I know we've got to have him well for us to win. Without him we're just another team. With him, we have a chance to be one of the best in the country.

It's that way with all of our guys. If we were missing one key player we'd be a so-so team, but with everybody playing well we are pretty tough to stop. If we just make it past those guys. They're (Central Washington) here in Kansas City every year, so they have experience. But, they do play in a weak district. I think if we play physical inside we'll kill them. If we can just get past these guys, we'll make it to the semi-final: The Final Four.

Post-game, Central Washington

Final four...The dream continues. I really can't believe it. We made it. I felt like this was our best game of the tourney so far. We were up by nine at the half and we should have been up 20. We made a few mistakes here and there. We jumped on them early. We took the ball inside and got them into serious foul trouble. We played a lot of our zone defense tonight because they didn't have any outside shooters. I've never seen a team as tired as they were. It seemed like every minute they were making massive substitutions because their guys were so tired. That was due in large part to us playing hard, and we ended up winning 80-64.

The highlight of the game, and maybe the tournament so far, was in the last minute. Greg Glenn hit a lay-up, and our bench went crazy. I think that showed how much we care for each other as people. We all really like to see our teammates do well. Greg G. may not have gotten to play as much as some of the other guys, but we love him just as much as any other teammate.

After the game, I cried harder than I ever have. As soon as the post-game prayer was over, I just couldn't control myself to stop crying. It was that I realized our dream was coming true, and everything we had worked for as a team was paying off. I knew now that we would at least get to play two more games, the semi-finals on Monday and then the championship or the consolation of Tuesday. I was also crying for Chris M. We all know how sick his brother Vince is and how much Chris is hurting for his brother to overcome cancer, yet Chris continues to play hard.

Before the game we always meet and go over our team goals for that night's opponent right before the coaches come into the locker room. After we read the goals, Chris asked each of us to think about Vince tonight and to remember if we start getting tired just to think about Vince. Chris had never really said anything about his brother; we knew, of course, but Chris had never said something like he said. We were all so pumped, we didn't even want to wait for Coach's pre-game talk. Bob told me when he took his afternoon nap that he had a dream we were going to win tonight. I hope he has good dreams Mon-

day and Tuesday, too.

Sunday, March 16

No games today. We got up early to go to a FCA breakfast, and then we came back to the hotel, and we had a worship service of our own. Today we are all going to get a lot of rest. Playing three games in three nights takes it out of you mentally and physically.

I had a good nap this afternoon. Tony Clanton called and said our practice at 6 p.m. is called off. Coach wants us to stay off our feet and get plenty of rest.

Tonight, we had an incredible meal. Our honorary coaches took us out, and we feasted. We're lucky we got honorary coaches who were so young. We all got along great. They are really funny and love sports. Joe and Mark Yugashick and Jim Wherewein are the honoraries' names, and we've all grown to care for each other. They took us to a fancy restaurant (all the players, student coaches, and Chuck went along). Since they were paying for it, we felt a bit shy as to how much we should spend. One of them said not to worry about price; so we proceeded to pig-out.

I was sitting with Greg Caudle, and he had three orders of popcorn shrimp as appetizers. Well, I was glad to see he was over his stomach problem. When we got back to the hotel, Bob Ford and I were in the lobby looking at the tourney bracket on a stand with all the scores from all the games. I told Bob that no team has scored over 100 points in a game yet. He told me "I guess we'll have to change that tomorrow night."

Monday, March 17

"Play your best in March" is what Coach is always telling us. What he means is that you need to be playing and peaking right when district play starts. I think we are playing our best, but will it be good enough? Do we really belong here in the semi-finals? Why are we here? Did we have an easy bracket? Did we get lucky? Were the other teams just playing bad?

Coach Turner had been telling us all week that we are the best team out here. Maybe he's right. Maybe we do deserve the championship more than the other teams. Coach Turner has done wonders for us all year long. He gives us so much confidence that we can get the job done. Out here in Kansas City, he keeps telling us we're the best, and I'm actually believing this guy!

St. Thomas Aquinas

We have to play a great team here in a few minutes. We had a good team meeting this afternoon, so I know we're ready. We know that we have to rebound well and get back on defense. Right before we go out I remind everyone to think about Vince, and if Chris M. can play hard with all the things on his mind, we all can play hard. After I say it, Greg C. just looks at me and nods his head. It's almost like he's saying, "Let's go bury those guys."

Postgame

We almost did bury 'em. We were up eight at the half and slowly but surely we built on that in the second half. Man, did they ever have a lot of talent. Fortunately, they got into early foul trouble. We were up by nine points, and AJ got fouled. Their coach argued a little too much and was hit with a technical, and it killed them. AJ hit the two foul shots and the two technical shots. We never looked back and won 102-91. (I guess someone finally scored 100, Bob!)

Richard really played well tonight. He hit a few outside jumpers that really got us going, and he ended up with 14 points.

"It [the homepage] is something we've wanted to do now for months," England said. "There is a lot of potential to do a lot of things."

England tries to spend some time every day adding something new to the site. He

hopes to soon add the graduate program descriptions, a virtual tour of the campus, a guest book so visitors can leave their e-mail addresses and comments, and, ultimately, an online application for admission.



Is it true? Are we really playing for the national championship?

Tuesday, March 18

When we saw a while back the National Tournament ran from March 12-18, we all planned on playing March 18. The younger guys on the team are so confident and have been confident all year long that we could win the national championship. I guess after my freshman and sophomore seasons, I never thought I'd get the chance to experience something like this. My freshman year we just weren't very good. My sophomore season, I thought we had a good team, but when we got blown out in the semi-finals of the district, I thought we'd never get a shot at winning the national championship. But then I got to thinking. Don't all great coaches win a championship? I started to realize that Coach Meyer is someday going to win the whole thing, and maybe, this would be the year. That would be awesome if I could just be around when he won the whole thing. Richard said today, "If nothing else we have to win this thing for Coach Meyer; he deserved it." Amen Rich, Amen.

Arkansas-Monticello

As we are getting our uniforms on in the hotel room Richard tries to tell me what he's going to do when we win the whole thing tonight. Since I'm superstitious, I try to shut him up, but he keeps on talking. The shuttle bus that is supposed to take us to the arena never shows up so we pile in cars and head to Kemper. On the way I realize that this is just another game. I know the other team is good, but I don't think we'll have a problem with them. Jerry goes over the pre-game scouting report and reminds us to just play our game.

Halftime

I am a bit scared. We are down 27-22. We're playing poorly and they're playing pretty well. Coach comes in and tells us not to try to get the lead back too early. If we keep pressuring them, their guards will get tired, and we can make a run at

them then. It works. We started pressuring their guards a little more, and we eventually came back. AJ hit a lay-up to put us up 42-40, and deep down inside, I knew it was all over. Chris M., John, and AJ played great just as they did all tournament long. Greg Glenn hit a lay-up in this game, and that was like icing on the cake as we won 67-54.

In no way did the whole thing sink in. We knew what we had accomplished, but we really haven't had time to reflect on it. With five games in six days, it has been kind of hectic. I've hugged everybody in sight. Everyone's crying or laughing, maybe both.

For me this celebration is a bit empty. Two of the people I care about more than anything aren't here tonight. My older brother isn't here because he passed away a year and a half ago. My younger brother couldn't be here because he had final exams at the University of Tennessee. I really would have liked for them to be here, but I know they were here in spirit. I can remember all the dreams we had as kids, and all the games we used to play. We used to dream and pretend we were playing in the championship and then jumping up and down after we pretended to win.

Tonight, I no longer have to pretend. I jump up and down tonight for real; this is a real championship. I owe it all to them. Neither of my brothers got to play college athletics, but I did. I hoped I played and represented them well.

But more than anything I hope I represented Christ. I owe everything to Jesus Christ—for blessing me with the physical abilities to play college ball and for giving me determination to never stop dreaming. It would take me forever to list all the people that need to be thanked, but hopefully everyone involved in the program knows that they are appreciated. Many people probably think this is a great thrill to win a national championship, and don't get me wrong, it really is, but nothing can compare to the people I've met and played with the past four years. The national championship will be a nice memory but it doesn't come close to the personal relationship we as players have had the joy to have.

1990s: Lipscomb University gets own homepage on World Wide Web

By Lisa Watkins, Editor

Jan. 17, 1996

Lipscomb University is now a stop on the Information Superhighway.

The Lipscomb homepage was established on the World Wide Web in December by News Bureau Director David England.

The homepage address is <http://www.dlu.edu>.

The homepage contains mostly promotional material, such as descriptions of the school, listings of upcoming events, athletics news and campus school information.

THE BABBLER

England is in the process of converting the undergraduate catalog onto the site. There is currently information about admissions, financial aid, the Vienna program, and the art and mathematics departments on the page.

"It [the homepage] is something we've wanted to do now for months," England said. "There is a lot of potential to do a lot of things."

England tries to spend some time every day adding something new to the site. He

hopes to soon add the graduate program descriptions, a virtual tour of the campus, a guest book so visitors can leave their e-mail addresses and comments, and, ultimately, an online application for admission.

"We will expand it to include other offices as we have the time, availability and need," England said.

England said that there will soon be a site for every department as well as the career center and the university relations office.

England gives much of the credit for the establishment of the Lipscomb homepage to ISS.

"I could not have done this without

their help," he said.

Although the site is enhanced for Netscape on the Macintosh computers, the homepage text is available on the IBM computers.

England said that anyone with announcements or news that would be of interest on the homepage is welcome to bring him the information already written out on disk so that he can put them on the page. He is also open to any comments or suggestions about the homepage.

For more information about the Lipscomb homepage, contact David England in the News Bureau at ENGLANDGD.

2000s: A day of mourning for Lipscomb

By Alyssa Scarborough
Sept. 13, 2001

As the whole country mourned Tuesday's attack, students all over Lipscomb's campus were visibly and inwardly moved by what they saw on television.

Many classes watched the latest news reports and put their books away because this day was history in the making. Students everywhere wondered if they would ever feel safe again.

Concern over the attack prompted John York to organize a special chapel. "As soon as I heard about it, I knew I had to find people with a heart for God to represent us all in chapel," said York.

The chapel began with a message from Don Cole, professor of Political Science,

The BABBLER

who spent years working at the Pentagon. He led the students in prayer while under extreme emotional strain. Steve Flatt, Dean McDowell, and Lee Camp also led the students in prayer and many students stayed after chapel to pray silently. Throughout the day, the presence of prayer was tremendous. Students could be seen holding hands or kneeling to pray. Dean Shoulders led students in prayer near the cross on the steps of Alumni.

One of the most visible responses of the day was by James McGregor. He played "Amazing Grace" on the bagpipes after the second chapel. McGregor said, "I did

it because I wanted to remind people about what we do have. God allows things to happen, but He hasn't forgotten us." Students and faculty gathered in the square during the day and talked about their feelings and concerns for the nation. They also showed their concern for fellow students whose families had been affected.

Many students spent the day trying to locate family and friends who live or were traveling in New York and Washington, D.C. Some of the students in the military were even called to duty.

Tuesday afternoon Dean McDowell and Dean Shoulders were visiting with students in Bison Square. McDowell said of the attack, "This is a clear picture between the kingdom of Heaven and the kingdoms of this world."

Shoulders was concerned about how the event might affect relationships on campus. "My greatest concern is that we are a multi-cultural campus, and I hope people will not react without rational thought."

"I pray for cool heads and that we will be a place of peace and love," said Shoulders.

When asked for advice for the student body, Dr. Don Cole responded, "Appreciate the enormity of the suffering of this day. Appreciate that this is rare in this country."

"When we don't understand God has the capacity to help."

The outward display of emotion in the Lipscomb community indicates that lives were touched in ways that won't soon be forgotten.

Lipscomb students directly affected by tragic events

Laura Posey

Sept. 13, 2001

Stanley Milgram's concept of "six degrees of separation" has been completely rethought since the news broke Tuesday morning. Suspected terrorist crashes of commercial airliners occurred in New York and Washington. The two World Trade Center towers have collapsed, as well as a portion of the Pentagon building. All airports in the U.S. have been ordered to shut down and planes have been grounded. Incoming international flights have been rerouted to Canada.

As soon as news hit the Lipscomb campus, students began scrambling to find out if they knew anyone who might have been in harm's way.

According to the concept discovered by Stanley Milgram in the 1960s, every person in the world knows everyone else through fewer than six other people. This national tragedy seems to prove to cut that figure in half.

Senior social work major Lisa Porter showed her concern for her family's safety since her father resides just outside New York City. "This is by far the worst terrorist

attack in the world — ever," she said.

Angela Raschke, a junior from Washington, D.C., managed to remain calm while knowing many of her friends could be in danger. Her concern rested in finding answers to the questions she and everyone else had been asking themselves all day. She said, "The Pentagon isn't giving out any information because they don't have any. We just have to be patient."

"Not a single person on campus has gone unaffected. It is our duty as Americans to step up to the leadership that our forefathers had to serve our country, not only for ourselves, but future generations," sophomore political science major Blair Schroeder said.

Throughout the day, students could be found on cell phones calling to check up on the safety of their parents, siblings, and friends.

"I'm concerned about my friends there. A lot of them are in the military, too," Jamie Edley said. Edley, a senior psychology major from Fulton, N.Y., has several friends who work and attend school in Manhattan and the Bronx.

SGA president Will Logue showed concern for his sister Rebecca. She and her senior class from Middle Tennessee Chris-

tian School were in Washington, D.C., on a school trip. Only minutes before the third crash, the students passed the Pentagon on a tour bus.

Students with family employed at the Pentagon or World Trade Center or in the military fear for the lives of their loved ones. Sergeant Thomas Blake, father of Lady Bison basketball player Monica Blake, was placed on active duty with the National Guard in Tullahoma.

Darrius Summers, a junior marketing major from Summerville, SC, said, "As far as he knows, my dad isn't going anywhere. He said that if we did go to war, though, he would be one of the first picks to go." Summers' father, Timothy Summers, is a member of the Air Force Reserve.

Jonathan Dickerson, a junior history major from Nashville, has immediate family employed at the Pentagon. He said, "The Pentagon, to me, has always been a sign of American strength, and seeing the side blown out almost brings me to tears. It's our nerve center, and it's really going to shake people up. It's a shame it takes something like this to pull us together."

Freshman Blake Pendergrast was called into service almost immediately after

the first attack Tuesday morning. Dressed in his fatigues, Pendergrast rushed through campus to take care of last-minute business before his departure for Fort Campbell. When asked what the U.S. military reaction would be, he said, "We'll search until we find these guys. They put out an order to search and destroy for all the Special Forces units."

Pendergrast was not certain of the magnitude of his duties before he left. "When we get there, they'll issue the orders for who does what and goes where," he stated.

While some students fear a forced draft in the case of war, others seem eager to enlist. Although the end of this American tragedy appears to be far from sight, Pendergrast believes the draft can be avoided. When asked whether or not he thought the situation would call for such drastic measures, he firmly stated, "No way. They're not going to do that."

Even as patriotism is on the rise for our union, many fear for national security. However, Dickerson seemed to have the situation in the right perspective. He said, "Right now, I'm just trying to find my strength in faith. I don't know God's will, but I believe things happen for a reason."

2010s: Flooding in Nashville affects campus and students

By Aaron Schmelzer

May 3, 2010

Record rainfalls and major flooding in Nashville left over 20,000 buildings without power and hundreds of families unable to leave or get to their homes.

Lipscomb's campus escaped major damage from the flooding and opened its facilities to the Red Cross as a shelter for displaced families and their pets.

Tom Wood, director of campus enhancement, said that the campus fared very well compared to other places in Middle Tennessee.

"I'm proud of the old girl," Wood said of Lipscomb's campus. "I'd say we have about a week's worth of restoration to do, maybe two weeks at the most. There was minor damage done to the first levels of McFarland, the Bennett Campus Center and Burton, and the basements of Sewell and Elam were flooded as well."

While Lipscomb's campus survived the flood of May 2010, other cities in the Middle Tennessee area suffered from severe flooding and lost cars, homes and businesses.

Nashville's one-day rainfall record set in 1979 was replaced with 7.25 inches this weekend, and the two-day record is now 13.53 inches. The record was broken for the wettest May in recorded history just two days into the month, and May 2010 is already the fifth wettest month in recorded

Illumination network

history as well.

Before the weekend of rain and overflowing tributaries, the Cumberland River was at 19 feet deep. As of Monday, May 3, the water level was at 52.5 feet, more than 11 feet over the flood level.

While the minor damage at Lipscomb is going to cost in excess of \$100,000 in repairs, Wood said that he is glad the students on campus were not affected much, only the academic and administrative areas.

Though students on campus were not affected much, many students who live in the Nashville area have a lot of clean-up to do after the weekend's floods.

Libby Barker, a senior marketing major from Arrington, Tenn., lives in the Crieve Hall area with some of her friends. Her garage-turned-basement accumulated four inches of water despite the housemates' efforts to keep their basement dry.

"The water came in through the old garage door," Barker said. "We had tons of stuff stored in the basement that we moved upstairs, and we also had to tear up the carpet. We tried to sweep water up as it came into the basement, but it just kept flowing in."

"Not a whole lot was ruined, it's just going to be kind of a yucky feeling for the next couple of weeks. It was a whole lot worse for our neighbors next door who got

a foot of water in their house."

Barker got the last two dehumidifiers and the last box fan left at Home Depot, as Nashville residents have bought out hardware stores of sump pumps and other cleaning supplies. Even with cleaning and drying supplies, Barker said that time is the only solution to flooding problems.

"Once the rain stopped, we set up the fans and dehumidifiers to speed up the drying process," Barker said. "We went down to the basement this afternoon and we were excited that we could actually see dry spots on the floor."

Junior accounting major Ashley Southerland is from Franklin. Southerland lives in the Cottonwood neighborhood, where some of the most severe flooding took place when the Harpeth River spilled over its banks.

"The back of the neighborhood is right next to the Harpeth River, and that's where most of the flooding happened," Southerland said. "The neighborhood pool area was flooded with three or four feet of water. You can only see the chairs on the tops of the lifeguard stands, and the playground beside the pool was ripped out of the ground by the water and part of it floated up the driveway of the clubhouse."

Though Cottonwood was one of the hardest-hit neighborhoods in Franklin, Southerland's house was not affected.

"There was no damage done to my house because I live near the front, away from the river," Southerland said. "The

lower part of the neighborhood that sits beside the river was where all the severe flooding happened. Houses on my street were flooded badly, but my house is perfectly fine."

Southerland, like most Nashville residents, had never seen rainfall or flooding like this before. The National Guard was evacuating people from her neighborhood on Saturday night.

Many people question why Nashville was hit so hard for three days straight with more severe rain and flooding than ever in recorded history. Barker finds the whole experience extremely humbling.

"You see images on TV like hurricanes in the southern United States where families and homes are just destroyed because of a flood, and I never understood how powerful it was until now," Barker said. "Honestly I'm humbled in the presence of God and how powerful his works are."

Barker said she hopes that the city of Nashville will become more of a community throughout all of the post-flood clean up.

"We have been bonding with our neighbors, like when we're going to the dump, we ask them if we can take something for them," Barker said. "I'd never want this to happen again and I know so many people have lost everything, but God is going to redeem everything."

"Even this morning, the sun is shining and his mercies are new, and it's kind of refreshing."

2020s: 52nd Dove Awards celebrate a night of music and fellowship

By Hannah Cron

Oct 23, 2021

The 52nd Gospel Music Association Dove Awards returned to Lipscomb's Allen Arena Tuesday night in celebration of a Christian music community that is "stronger together."

After a yearlong hiatus of the in-person ceremony due to COVID-19, the energy of the crowd made one thing clear — everyone was glad to be back.

Nominee Kelly Nelson Clark spoke of the feeling of being together again in her red-carpet interview. "We're so thrilled; I want to hug everybody!"

Lipscomb University President Candice McQueen kicked off the show by offering a welcome to campus, which was followed by a stunning performance from We The Kingdom featuring some African musical inspirations.

Hosts Natalie Grant and Jonathan

LUMINATION NETWORK

McReynolds began their duties with a video skit about the pitfalls of zoom meetings before coming together on the stage to officially open the show.

The first award of the evening for Contemporary Gospel Album of the Year went to Koryn Hawthorne for her record "I Am."

Next up were performances from gospel legend CeCe Winans, Tasha Layton and popular new group CAIN.

"A Week Away," directed by Roman White, took home the award for Inspirational Film of the Year, followed by the award for Gospel Artist of the Year which was presented to CeCe Winans for the 24th Dove Award win of her long career.

"I feel so encouraged," Winans said backstage, "and it reminds us that the word of God is always relevant."

Co-host Jonathan McReynolds took to

the stage with Mali for a performance of their songs "Best Thing" and "Jump Ship," and later GMA sweetheart Lauren Daigle returned to the Dove Awards stage for a choir-accompanied performance of her most recent single, "Hold On To Me."

Chart-topping hit "Graves Into Gardens" won the award for Worship Recorded Song of the Year, followed by a performance from acclaimed Christian rapper KB featuring Matt Redmon.

The coveted award for Song of the Year was awarded to "The Blessing," written by Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe and Steven Furtick.

Following the touching In Memorium segment, Maverick City Music performed its hit "Jireh," and Rap/Hip Hop Album of the Year was awarded to KB for his album "His Glory Alone."

Legendary artist and co-host Natalie

Grant returned to the stage for a beautiful performance backed by a children's choir,

featuring her twin daughters.

The final award of the night for Artist of the Year was awarded to fan-favorite For King and Country, and Elevation Worship closed out the show with a performance of their now Dove Award-winning song "Graves Into Gardens."

In the press room following the closing of the ceremony, all of the artists expressed common gratitude for renewed fellowship and for the wonderful gift they received to share their music with the world.

Renowned rapper Lecrae spoke to the connection facilitated through music.

"By me showing off my scars, wounded people see that their wounds can heal," Lecrae said.

Dove Award-nominated artist Blanca summed up the purpose of the evening best.

"Any achievement I've gotten is just an offering for the foot of the cross."